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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Autopal, National Enterprise, in Hluk	DATE DISTR.	26 July 1954 25X1
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Construction of an Autopal factory in Hluk (P49/T18), subordinate to Autopal, National Enterprise, in Novy Jicin, began in spring 1952. Recruitment of labor began in autumn 1952; construction of the factory was completed in July 1953.
2. The factory was located on the southeast edge of Hluk on the south side of the Okluky brook. The southwestern side of the factory was on a road joining the district road which lead to the Kunovice (P50/T09) railway station. The factory was about 200 meters long and 150 meters wide.
3. The factory employed about 500 workers who worked in three shifts. About one half were women. The qualified employees were from the main factory in Novy Jicin while the untrained workers came from Hluk.
4. Eight thousand radiators for eight types of vehicles were planned for 1953, including Praha RNs, tractors, and probably all types of Skoda trucks. The finished products were sent to Autorenova in Prague-Vysocany, Novy Jicin, and Povazska Bystrica from the Kunovice railroad station. However, there was a large percentage of rejects, and at times whole consignments were returned to the factory because of radiator leaks. It was probable that the 1953 plan would not be fulfilled.
5. Zinc sheeting and copper were obtained from Autopal at Povazska Bystrica, but sometimes delivery was very late and production was delayed. Tin was brought to Hluk from Slovakia, but there was a great shortage. These materials were not of good quality. Tin came in two qualities, which had to be blended and did not hold together well. The zinc sheeting was 3 mm. thick and was cut and pressed into the shape of the cells; however, there were usually breaks and splits, and one third of the sheeting was wasted.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#")

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6. Equipment was of an older type and had been brought to [redacted] from the main plant at Novy Jicin. There were very few new machines. The [redacted] was usually needed repairs which held up production. The machines included presses for bending plates, plate-cutting shears, machines for cutting holes, and there were two revolving lathes for drawing pipes.
7. Natural methane gas, brought from the nearby wells, was used for heating the tinning furnaces and hand apparatus with which individual molds were tin-plated.
8. Electric current was supplied by the Slavicina power station at Uhersky Brod. 25X1
9. Personalities: 25X1
 - Factory manager: Zmrzlik (fnu) [redacted] also had the job of cadre security officer. [redacted] 25X1
 - [redacted] 25X1
 - Chief manager: Kovar (fnu) [redacted] 25X1
 - [redacted] 25X1
 - Shipping manager: Jan Dolezal from Novy Jicin [redacted] 25X1
 - Planning officer: Svetinsky (fnu) [redacted] 25X1
10. The workers' morale was not good; there was a great deal of absenteeism. The so-called "farmer-metal workers" stayed at home when there was work to be done in the fields. In the summer months, absenteeism reached high proportions.

Legend to Attached Sketch

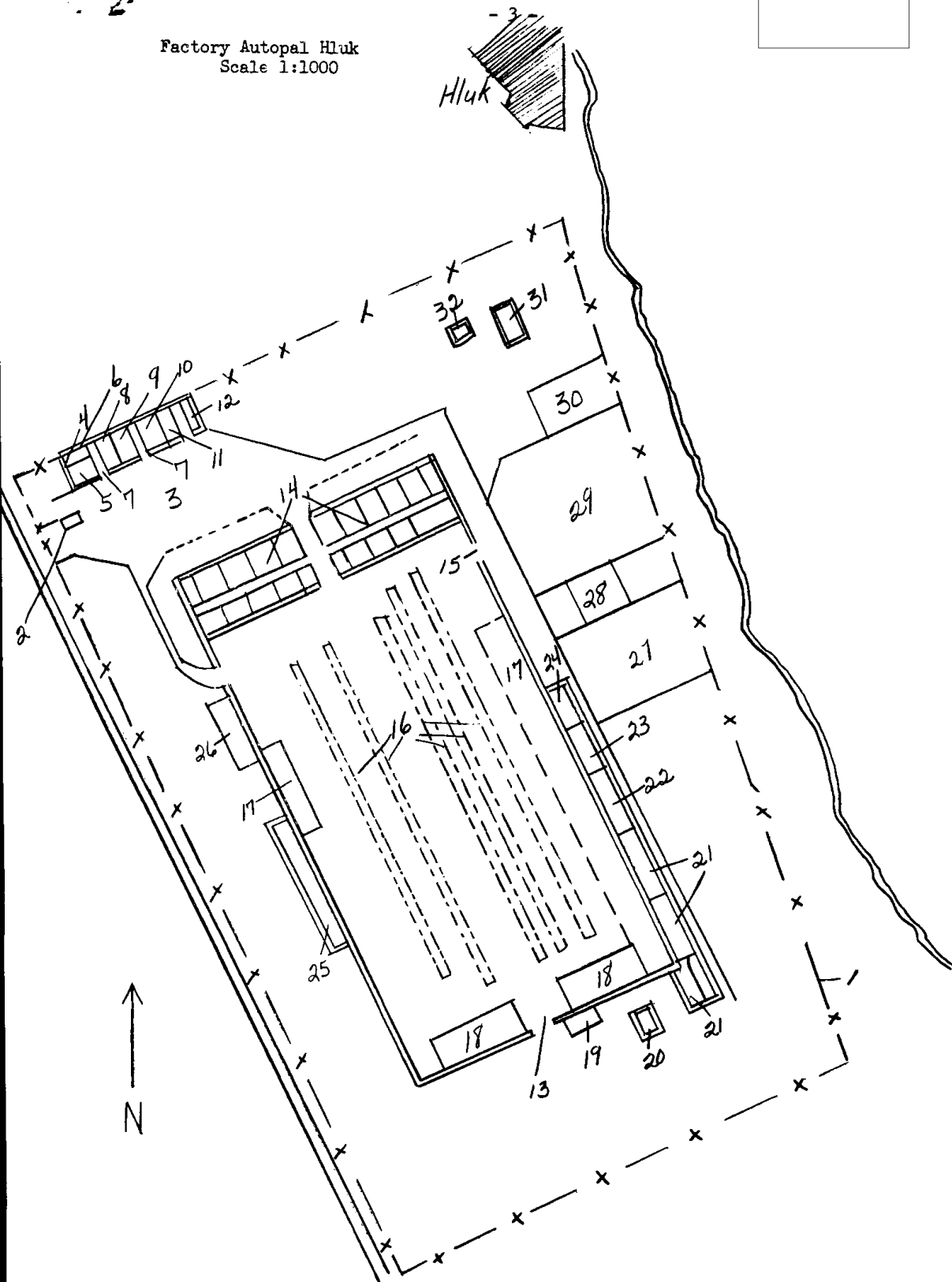
1. Wire fence, 2 meters high, surrounding the factory.
2. New road and entrance to the factory.
3. Concrete road inside factory.
4. One-story building, 30 x 8 meters. Offices.
5. Guard post.
6. Arms store and works militia.
7. Corridors.
8. Personnel department, 8 x 4 meters.
9. Offices of the cadre official and factory management.
10. Shipping department.
11. Accounts department.
12. Planning department.
13. Production room, 120 x 60 meters, reinforced concrete with brick walls.
14. Main entrance.
15. Entrance for vehicles.
16. Assembly line.
17. Stores for raw materials.
18. Tin-plating shops with one furnace each, where finished products were tin-plated.
19. Smelting room for tin.
20. Cleaning shop, wooden building, 6 x 4 meters. Upper and lower chambers where radiators were cleaned.
21. Machine shop and boiler house with a brick chimney about 15 meters high.
22. Boiler house and store for carbides and coal.
23. Air compressor.
24. Electrical workshop.
25. Drying room for finished products.
26. Painting shop.
27. Store for coal and lignite.
28. Store for nonferrous waste.
29. Store for oil, gasoline, and acids.
30. Store for iron bars and steel pipes.
31. Joiners' shop, a wooden hut, 8 x 4 meters.
32. Unidentified.

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Factory Autopal Hluk
Scale 1:1000



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